

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received

MAR 31 1982

date entered

MAY 11 1982

1. Name

historic Petersham Common Historic District

and/or common Same

2. Location MA 32/122

street & number multiple -- see attached list

~~N/A~~ not for publication

city, town Petersham ~~N/A~~ vicinity of congressional district Second

state Massachusetts code 025 county Worcester code 027

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
☒ district	☐ public	☒ occupied	☐ agriculture	☒ museum
☐ building(s)	☐ private	☐ unoccupied	☒ commercial	☒ park
☐ structure	☒ both	☐ work in progress	☒ educational	☒ private residence
☐ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	☒ entertainment	☒ religious
☐ object	☐ in process	☒ yes: restricted	☒ government	☐ scientific
	N/A being considered	☐ yes: unrestricted	☐ industrial	☐ transportation
		☐ no	☐ military	☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name multiple -- see attached list

street & number multiple

city, town Petersham ~~N/A~~ vicinity of state Massachusetts

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Courthouse

street & number 2 Main Street

city, town Worcester state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

title has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date 1973 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town Boston state Massachusetts

7. Description

Petersham Common Historic District

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Petersham, in the northwest corner of Worcester County in central Massachusetts, was granted under the name Nichewaug in 1733, and incorporated under its present name in 1754. The town lies on a central ridge of about 1100 feet above sea level which is surrounded by miles of dense forest land, much of it within the town limits. The Petersham Common Historic District is linear in configuration and encompasses approximately fifty acres and forty-five structures. It includes Common Street, on the west side of the common, much of North and South Main Streets, which border the common on the east, and portions of Athol Road and North Street.

The common was laid out, along with 72 settling lots, in October, 1733. Today, it remains the functional and aesthetic center of Petersham, which, with a minimum of intrusions, has retained the character of a New England village. Building lots around the common and along North and South Main Streets are generally large with numerous trees. Open land held by the Trustees of Reservations preserves a view from the common of Mount Wachusett to the east.

The majority of the buildings within the district are of wood frame construction and were built before 1850. Most are Greek Revival in style, although several date from the Federal Period. As Petersham began to encourage summer residents during the late nineteenth century, construction of buildings combining Queen Anne and Shingle Style elements began. The Nichewaug Hotel (#6), constructed in 1899, just to the northwest of the common, is an example. The Colonial Revival Fiske House (#28) was built on North Main Street in the same year.

Several public buildings are sited around the common itself. They include the Town Hall (#20-photo #3), the Unitarian Church (#11-photo #1), and the Brick Building (#18, photo #2), all Greek Revival in style, and the Petersham Memorial Library (#7--photo #5), which combines elements of the Queen Anne and Richardsonian Romanesque. In addition, there is a country store and a restaurant, both housed in Greek Revival structures (#21 and 22). Of the residential buildings which face on the common, six are Greek Revival in style (#5, 8, 9, 10, 21, 22, 21) and one, the Howe House (#12), was constructed in 1768. The predominantly Greek Revival character of the Petersham common is due, in part, to the destruction by fire of several earlier structures. At the center of the common is a Bandstand (#C1-photo #4) constructed in 1900. The common is also the site of several plaques commemorating such events as Shay's Rebellion and honoring Petersham's fellow soldiers. A burying ground, associated with the town's earliest meeting houses, is located to the east of the common adjacent to the Brick Building (#19-photo #2), the Town Hall (#20-photo #3). The Daniel Bigelow House (#1) Constructed in 1780 on the corner of Sunset Lane and North Main Street, this wood frame house was moved one lot to the north to its present location in 1842. A two and one half story clapboarded structure, five bays wide with a center entrance facing the street, the house possesses some Georgian elements such as the first floor window caps and the rectangular transom over the main door, although in proportions it is Federal. A classical entrance portico and a screened side porch have been added.

The Seth Hapgood House (#2) Hapgood, or his builder, Joseph G. Parmenter, moved the Daniel Bigelow House of this lot at the north corner of Sunset Lane and North Main Street in order to construct this wood frame building in 1842. It is a two and one half story Greek Revival structure, characteristically facing gable end to the street. Less usual is the five bay facade with a center entrance. Architectural features include a pedimented hex style Doric portico across the front, corner pilasters, an encircling entablature, and typically Greek Revival door and window surrounds. An ell, contemporary with the main house, extends off the back. Screened porches have been added at the sides. Hapgood family records state that Parmenter, a local builder, was given the surplus material from this house and that he used it to construct a copy on West Street

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Item number 7

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The Elijah Dix House (#3) was built in 1791 on the south corner of Sunset Lane and North Main Street. It was moved away from the corner to its present location at the south end of the same lot in about 1843. A one and one half story Federal dwelling with the ridge of its pitched roof parallel to the street, the house is five bays wide with a center entrance. Federal design elements include the semi-elliptical fanlight and the sidelights of the main door surround. An ell which extends off the back of the Dix house had held a store for much of the building's history.

The Congregational Church (#4) or North Church, on North Main Street was built by housewright Joseph G. Parmenter, ca. 1829. It is thought to have been his first building. Though Greek Revival in overall design and proportions, the church shows an early use of Gothic Revival lancet windows, some of rather unusual dimensions. Characteristic of the Greek Revival style is the fact that the building faces gable end to the street. Pilasters divide the main entrance facade into three bays. The outer two contain two doors with 20-light fixed sash above them while the center bay contains a 20/20 double-hung window. A smaller 6/6 double-hung window lights the pedimented gable above. All windows are capped by blind lancets and have exterior shutters. Astride the roof ridge close to the front of the church is a two part bell tower consisting of an octagonal belfry on a square base. The belfry has louvered lancet openings and a hexagonal dome roof above a heavy moulded cornice. It rests on a square base topped by a deep moulded cornice and a balustrade with iron finials. In 1900, the Congregational Church was moved back from the street and underwent extensive remodelling. Carriage sheds, contemporary with the church, were demolished in 1934.

The Nichewaey Hotel (#6) was constructed on Common Street for use of summer visitors in 1899. It was designed by Providence, Rhode Island architect Edmund Wilson in a manner typical of turn-of-the-century eclecticism with modified elements of both the Queen Anne and Shingle Style. The former hotel is a tall two and one half story structure with a gambrel roof, extensive dormers, and narrow, projecting cross gables. Tall, unornamented rectangular chimneys rise from the lower roof slope. In 1951, the Sisters of the Assumption Academy purchased the hotel for Ularia Assumption Academy and later added a brick school wing at the rear.

Peterhsam Memorial Library (#7-photo #5), also designed by Edmund Wilson, was constructed on Common Street as a Civil War memorial in 1889-91. Constructed of fieldstone with a shingled roof, the building combines derivative Queen Anne and Richardsonian Romanesque design elements.

The Aaron Brooks House (#9) on Common Street was built ca. 1842 by the Parmenter Brothers. Although the two and one half story building faces gable end to the street and the main facade is embellished with a Greek Revival tetrastyle doric protico supporting a broad pediment. The center entrance, with sidelights and a rectangular transom, is flanked by two windowed bays on either side. Window and door caps are decorated with a fret work motif.

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Other Greek Revival detailing includes the flush horizontal boarding and corner pilasters of the main facade.

The Unitarian Church (#11-photo #1), on the corner of West and Common Streets, is a 1910 reproduction, designed by William G. Rantoul. The Greek Revival original was built in 1842 on this site and destroyed by fire in 1908. Facing gable end to the street, the church has a hexastyle Doric portico beneath a gable pediment, an encircling entablature, and corner pilaster. A tripartite clock and bell tower rises above the pediment and terminates in a finial.

The Samuel Peckham House (#14) is a simple Second Period dwelling constructed by 1770 at the corner of Spring and South Main Streets. Five bays wide with the ridge of its pitched roof parallel to the street, the house has a simple Georgian transom over its center entrance and equally simple horizontal window caps. In 1843, the building's central chimney was removed and replaced by two stacks. An ell was added at the back of the house in the same year.

Built in 1760, the Second Period James Cowden House (#15) is one of the oldest houses still standing in Petersham. Like the Peckham House across the street, it is a simple five bay structure with a center entrance. Unlike its neighbor, the Cowden House retains its original center chimney.

The Brick Building (#10-photo #2) was constructed in 1848 for use as a school. Its four bay facade faces the common and has a center entrance recessed within a simple surround of pilasters and entablature. Stone sills and lintels define the window openings. An upper room in the Brick Building, the only structure of this material in the district, also served at various times as a library and grange hall. The local post office moved into the structure in 1925. Petersham's second meeting house preceded the Brick Building on this site but burned in 1845.

The Petersham Town Hall (#20-photo #3), dedicated in 1960, is the third such structure on this South Main Street site. The first, constructed ca. 1835, burned in 1845. The second, designed by Charles Frederick Bosworth in 1850, was destroyed by fire in 1957. The present structure, a replica of the Bosworth building, was constructed from plans made by Cambridge architect Arthur H. Brook, Jr. The Town Hall, which faces gable end to the street (and to the common beyond), takes the form of a Greek Revival meeting house. Two Doric columns in antis beneath a pedimented gable define the entrance facade; and a bullseye window and a palmette motif break the gable field. Brackets, characteristically an Italianate feature, punctuate the cornice of the otherwise Greek Revival structure. A truncated, polygonal bell tower, rising above the entrance, completes the composition.

The Hutchinson Country Store (#21) is a two and one half story Greek Revival structure with a tetrastyle Doric portico. It was constructed at the corner of North Main and East Streets, facing the common, in 1840 by builder Samson Wetherell and his brother-in-law and partner, Benjamin F. Hamilton. The building has always housed a store on the first floor. The upper floor, where a hat factory flourished from 1850-1866, has been used most recently as a grange hall.

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The Benjamin Hamilton House (#22) was constructed in 1838 by the same pair of builders who later constructed the store next to it. The two Greek Revival structures are very similar in design. The Hamilton House, like its neighbor, is two and one-half(story)stories in height and faces the street with a tetrastyle portico beneath a pedimented gable.

Aaron Brooks constructed this one room wood frame Law Offices (#26) in a much simplified Greek Revival style in 1830. One story plus an attic, it faces gable end to the street. The pedimented gable is flush boarded, in contrast to the clapboarding with narrow corner boards on the remainder of the office. A narrow, rectangular window placed horizontally breaks into the gable field.

The Fiske House (#28), built in 1899 on North Main Street, is a two and one half story Colonial Revival summer house. A wood frame structure designed by Edmund Wilson, it is shingled and has window caps and door surround that are Georgian in origin.

The wood frame MacCarty House (#35) was built in 1785 as a double residence by two brothers of that name. A tall, four-square, clapboarded structure with a hipped roof and interior end chimneys, it is five bays across with a center entrance facing the street. A one story porch extends out from both sides of the house. Attached to the rear elevation is an ell which is as large as the Main house and which has a partial hipped roof.

Built on South Main Street in 1784, the wood frame William Peckham House (#40) is two and one half stories in height and five bays wide with a center chimney and center entrance. An integral leanto makes it two bays deep on the first floor. Various one story additions have been made on the rear elevation. Though this building dates to the earlyfederal period, its pilaster and entablature door surround, with a rectangular transom, reflects the Georgian style.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☒ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400-1499	☒ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500-1599	☐ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600-1699	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☒ 1700-1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☒ 1800-1899	☐ commerce	☒ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☒ 1900-	☐ communications	☐ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates multiple Builder/Architect multiple

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Petersham Common Historic District possesses integrity of setting, design, materials, and workmanship. Few of the buildings within the district were constructed after 1852, and all but two are wood frame. Large building lots with views to extensive open land beyond appear much as they did during the first half of the nineteenth century, the area's primary period of significance. The common itself is significant in that it has been the focus of town activities since Petersham's settlement in the eighteenth century. Thus, Petersham Common Historic District meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

First laid out as common land for the use of new settlers in 1733, the common assumed a further role as town center when it was chosen as the site for several public buildings, starting with the town's earliest meeting house which was built in 1736 to serve both religious and civic needs. To the common in 1773, came local citizens to protest the unfair taxation and harsh rule of their provincial government. In early April of 1775, Petersham men were summoned to the meeting house to take up arms in the fight for independence. When church and state were separated by law in 1835, Petersham's first Town Hall was built facing the common. Today, religious, civic, social, cultural, mercantile, and recreational activities still bring local citizens to the Petersham common year round.

The citizens of Petersham have been concerned with preservation and maintenance of the common since 1878 when a Village Improvement Association was established to plant trees there. This concern was continued in the twentieth century with the establishment of an historic district study committee in 1962. A small local historic district was established in 1967 and enlarged in 1969. The existence of this district has contributed in large part to current high levels of preservation in the district.

As a historic district containing many properties dating from the second half of the 18th century, and the first half of the 19th century, the Petersham Historic District should be considered to contain historic archaeological resources. Domestic refuse, either broadly dispersed or in discrete trash pits, is likely to be found in the yards surrounding structures and potentially indicative of social status and regional trade patterns. The properties on which early houses are found are probably also the locations of historic archaeological features such as outbuildings, fences, walls, and landscaped areas which are indicative of early historic site configurations.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Woolsey, John Munro, Petersham, MA History (NY, 1929).
Brooks, James Wilson, Ed. 1754-1904 One Hundred and fiftieth Anniversary of the Town of
Petersham Everett P Co. (Boston, 1904).
Coolidge, Mabel Cooke, History of Cuc April 20, 1754 (Hudson, Powell Press, 1948) (con't.)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 47

Quadrangle name Petersham

Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

UMT References

A

1	8
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7	3	1	4	0	0
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4	7	0	8	6	5	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

1	8
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7	3	1	5	6	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	7	0	8	6	7	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

C

1	8
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7	3	1	3	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	7	0	7	0	8	0
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D

1	8
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7	3	1	2	1	0
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4	7	0	7	0	6	0
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E

1	8
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7	3	1	0	4	0
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4	7	0	7	6	2	0
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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Please refer to the attached map "Plan of Historic District in Petersham, Mass." The boundaries of the National Register district are the same. Both extend to rear lot lines or 200' from the street, whichever is less.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state MA code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Anne Booth, Consultant with Delight Haines, Petersham Historic District Commission

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date December, 1980

street & number 294 Washington Street telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state Massachusetts

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Patricia W. Weslowski

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission date 3/18/82

For HCERS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

William H. Brauman date 5.11.82
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Patrick Andrews date 5/10/82
Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

History of Worcester County, V. I, G.W. Hoar (1879) Boston: C.F.Jewett & Co., 1879).

Black, John Donald & Ayers Bruiser (Cambridge, 1952) Statistics-land use, ec. of N.E.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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date entered

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Page

Maps	Owners	Addresses
31	Johnson, Arnold & Rhea	South Main Street, Petersham, Mass 01366
32	Gauthier, Alfred & Mary	" " " " " "
33	Bowes, Gregory G.	" " " " " "
34	Reynolds, Elizabeth	" " " " " "
35	Coolidge, Rosamond C.	" " " " " "
36	Nicnolson, Richard R. & Marie K.	" " " " " "
14	Kuniholm, David A.	" " " " " "
15	Larsen, Gregory & Sandra	" " " " " "
16	Bull, George W., Jr. & Dale S.	" " " " " "
17	Andreson, Carl W. & Geleste C.	" " " " " "
13	Raup, Hugh M. & Lucy G.	The Common
12	Simon, Oliver (Estate)	New England Merchants Bank Box 2358 Boston
18, 19, 20	Town of Petersham	Cemetery, Brick Building, Town Hall, Band Stand
Cl, 30	Town of Petersham	Flag Pole, Common
21	Germond Bart J. & Donna	The Common
22	Lavoie, Donald A., White Pillars	The Common
11	Unitarian Church	" "
10	Jakus, Dennis J.	" "
9	Paul, Eileen R.	" "
8	Rue, Charles V. & Evelyn H.	" "
7	Petersham Memorial Library	" "
6	Maria Assumpta	Les Soeurs De L'Assumpta de la Saints Viergo Common, Petersham
5	Flint, Susan	North Main Street
3	Fenn, Donald F. & Elizabeth C.	" " "
4	Congregation Church	" " "
2	Gilbert, Jeffrey D.	" " "
1	Siccardi, Martha F.	" " "
38	Craig, Edward, Jr. & Frances L.	" " "
39	Harvard Forest	" " "
40	Smith, Chwrls R. & Dorothy R.	" " "
41, 42	Woolsey, John M. Jr., & Ladlie	" " "
43	Petersham Craft Center	" " "
44	Catholic Church, Roman Catholic Bishop	Worcester, Mass 01609
29	Conboy, Michael J. & Elizabeth	" " "
28	Fiske Barbard	111 E. 75th St., New York City, New York
27	Cunningham, Hilton & Elizabeth	North Main St., Petersham, Mass
25	Potee, Kenneth G. & Joanne K.	" " " " "
24	Historical Society	" " " " "
23	Goudie, Kathleen J.	" " " " "
26	Trustees of Reservations	224 Adams St., Milton, Mass 02186
37	Greanier, Theodore	

Substantive Review
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

Property: Petersham Common Historic District
State, County: MA, Worcester
Federal Agency: _____

Working No. 3/31/82-1057

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/1/82

Date Due: 5/22/82 - 5/15/82

Action: ACCEPT 5/11/82

RETURN

REJECT

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

photos _____

maps _____

Substantive Review: ☒ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria Accept - A.C.

Reviewer Patrick Andrus

Discipline Historian

Date 5/10/82

☐ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: ☒ technical corrections cited below
☐ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ altered
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	☐ original site
		☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☒ summary paragraph
☒ completeness
☒ clarity
☒ alterations/integrity
☒ dates
☒ boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

☒ summary paragraph

☒ completeness

☒ clarity

☒ applicable criteria

☒ justification of areas checked

☒ relating significance to the resource

☒ context

☒ relationship of integrity to significance

____ justification of exception

____ other

historic archeology is not adequately justified - their claim could be made of any historic district

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Address of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USPT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

Site _____

Date _____

13. Other

____ Maps

____ Photographs

____ Other

Photo coverage is barely minimal - they describe enough of the bldgs. to accept though

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Petersham Common Historic District
Petersham
Worcester County
Massachusetts

Photo Credit: Hames Studio
Negatives Filed: Hames Studio, Athol, MA
Identification: Unitarian Church foreground,
 looking East to Town Hall.
Date: October 1978

#1 of 5



Petersham Common Historic District
Petersham
Worcester County
Massachusetts

Photo Credit: Hames Studio

Negatives Filed: Hames Studio, Athol, MA

Identification: Petersham Town Hall, facing
West to Common, #20 map.

Date: 1979

#2 of 5



Petersham Common Historic District
Petersham
Worcester County
Massachusetts

Photo Credit: Hames Studio
Negatives Filed: Hames Studio, Athol, MA
Identification: Petersham Memorial Library,
facing East to Common, #7 map.
Date: 1979

#3 of 5



Petersham Common Historic District
Petersham
Worcester County
Massachusetts

Photo Credit: Hames Studio
Negatives Filed: Hames Studio, Athol, MA
Identification: Unitarian Church, facing
East to Common, #11 map.
Date: 1979

#4 of 5



Petersham Common Historic District
Petersham
Worcester County
Massachusetts

Photo Credit: Hames Studio

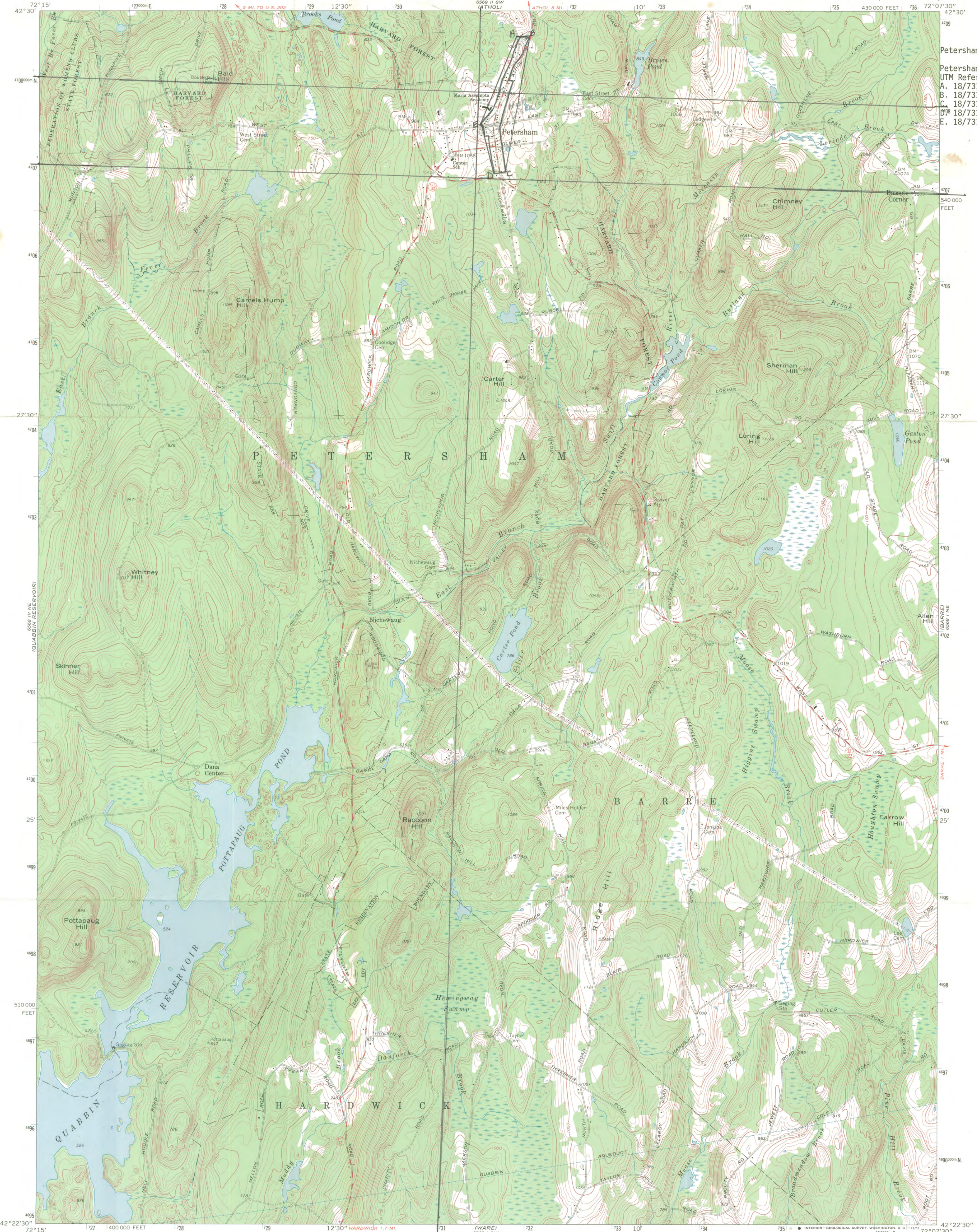
Negatives Filed: Hames Studio, Athol, MA

Identification: Brick Building, facing West to
Common, #19 map.

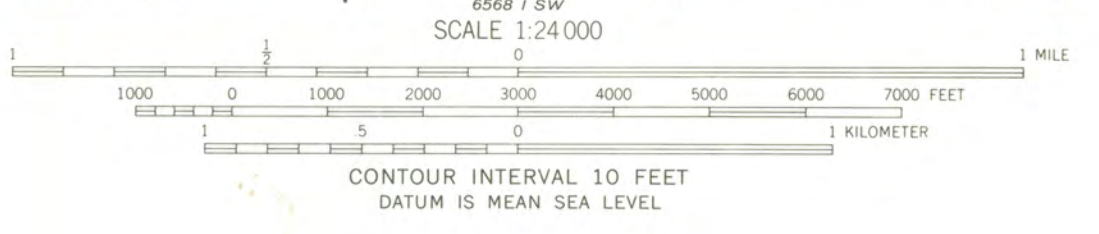
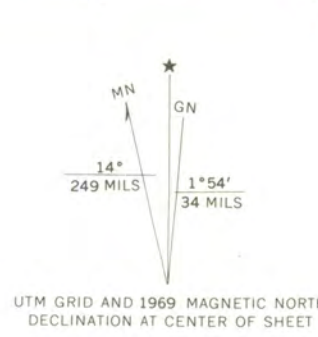
Date: 1979

#5 OF 5

Petersham Common Historic District
Petersham, MA
UTM Reference
A. 18/731400/4708650
B. 18/731560/4708670
C. 18/731350/4707080
D. 18/731210/4707060
E. 18/731040/4707620



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, Massachusetts Geodetic Survey, and
Massachusetts Harbor and Land Commission
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1939. Topography by planimetric surveys 1943-1944
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1968. Field checked 1969
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 18, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, all weather, hard surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface
Light duty road, all weather, improved surface
Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
State Route



PETERSHAM, MASS.
N4222.5—W7207.5/7.5

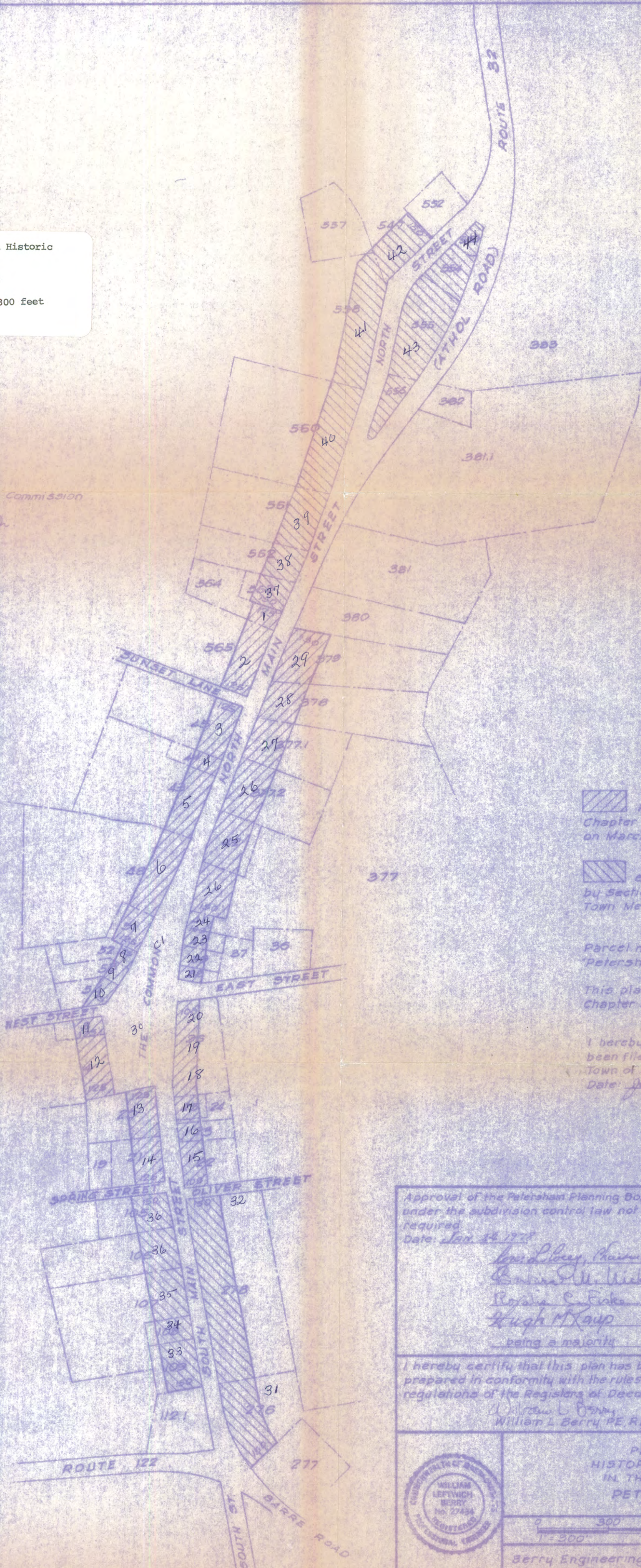
1969

AMS 6568 1 NW—SERIES V814

Petersham Common Historic District
Petersham, MA
January 12, 1978
Scale: 1 inch = 300 feet

Petersham Historic District Commission
APPROVED

Delight G. Haine, Ch.
George A. Beault
Ant. Hammond
Paul G. Bell
Richard J. Conboy



Historic District established by Section 2, Chapter 211, Acts of 1966, accepted by the Town on March 13, 1967.

enlarged Historic District, as authorized by Section 12, Chapter 211, by vote of Annual Town Meeting, March 10, 1969, Article 31.

Parcel numbers shown are those designated on "Petersham Property Map"

This plan prepared in conformity with Section 2, Chapter 353, Acts of 1971, General Laws

I hereby certify that a copy of this plan has been filed in the office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Petersham.
Date: January 16, 1978

William L. Berry
Town Clerk

Approval of the Petersham Planning Board under the subdivision control law not required.
Date: Jan. 14, 1978

David L. Perry, Chairman
Edward M. Wickes
Roxie C. Fiske
Hugh M. Karp
being a majority

I hereby certify that this plan has been prepared in conformity with the rules and regulations of the Registry of Deeds.
William L. Berry
William L. Berry PE, RLS

Worcester District Registry of Deeds



PLAN OF
HISTORIC DISTRICT
IN THE TOWN OF
PETERSHAM

0 300 600
1"=300' 1:5600

12 January 1978

Berry Engineering Inc. Petersham Mass.



Feb. 11, 1982

Mrs Patricia L. Weslowski
Mass. Historical Commission
294 Washington St.
Boston 02108

RECEIVED

FEB 16 1982

MASS. HIST. COMM.

In response to your
letter of Jan. 20, to owners of property
in the Petersham Historic District,
speaking for my wife Elizabeth C
Fenn, joint owner, as well as for
myself, we are willing for the
property to be listed in the National
Register.

Signed

Donald F. Fenn
and Elizabeth C. Fenn

D.F.F.

Sisters of the Assumption

*Provincial Residence
North Main Street - Box 128
Petersham, Massachusetts 01366*

February 27, 1982

RECEIVED

MAR - 1982

Ms. Patricia L. Weslowski, Executive Director
State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Dear Ms. Weslowski:

We have received your letter addressed to the property owner of Maria Assumpta Academy, Petersham, Massachusetts, relative to the nomination of this property to the National Register of Historic Places.

It is the request of the Sisters of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, U.S.A., Inc., owners of the said property, not to list the above-named Academy in the National Register for the following reason:

This property has been entrusted to a real estate broker to be sold. Such an action could jeopardize our efforts to sell. It is our belief that such a listing should be left to the discretion of a future owner, whoever he may be.

Moreover, the criteria for evaluation furnished us reads as follows:

"Ordinarily...properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes...shall not be considered eligible for the National Register."

Consequently, this property which is owned by a religious institution and which is used for religious purposes appears to us as disqualified for the listing.

Thank you for giving our request due consideration.

Respectfully yours,

SISTERS OF THE ASSUMPTION
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN, U.S.A., Inc.

Aurore Nadreau, S.A.S.V.
Aurore Nadreau, S.A.S.V., Treas.